
Footwear Engineering-I

Chapter: Footwear

Lecture No.-01



The History of shoes

❑ **Bronze Age shoe:**

The simplest way to protect feet was to grab what was handy - bark, large leaves and grass - and tie them under the foot with vines. In hot countries this developed into the sandal made from woven palms, grass or plant fibers and attached to the foot with toe loops. Examples of early sandals have been found in Japan, Polynesia and America.

Few early shoes have survived. Fragments of Bronze Age footwear have been found in excavations but not enough to determine styles. But from the Roman times onwards many shoes have survived suggesting that there were many more shoe styles than one would expect.





❑ Roman shoe:

Romans arrived in Britain wearing the military sandal, called the caliga, which exposed the toes, had a lattice - patterned upper, front lacing and a heavily nailed sole. Other styles were the calceus and the gallica, both with a closed toe - a style more suited to the British weather.

After the Romans left, Britain began producing its own styles, usually a closed toe leather shoe with an oval or round toe shape. The ankle shoe was popular in the 9th Century.



❑ Medieval footwear:

Footwear styles continued to change during the Medieval age. The length of one's toe was an indication of status. The King and his court had shoes with the largest toes. This style wasn't worn by women. The ankle shoe remained popular, it was usually side laced with three pairs of holes.

The pointed toe disappeared at the end of the Middle Ages and was replaced by round and square toe shapes. At first a sensible size, toes became larger and larger. During the reign of Henry VIII soles reaching 6½ inches wide were common and known as foot bags.



❑ Tudor shoes:

After 1500, a blunt pointed toe returned, followed by a round toe in the 1590s. It's about this time that heels emerge.

By the end of Elizabeth I's reign heels grow to 2-3 inches, all footwear is made straights and sides are opened up.

During the reign of Charles I, flamboyant knee boots were popular.



❑ Patterned shoe:

In the 18th Century, women's shoes reflected the elaborate patterns of their dresses. Men's shoes became quite plain made of black leather with pointed toes and low heels.

Towards the end of the 18th Century and beginning of the 19th Century women's shoes became lower and lower cut, heels became lower until they disappeared altogether and the pointed toe is replaced by first narrow oval toes and then square toes. Shoes became so dainty made from satin and silks that ribbon ties are added to keep the shoe on the foot.



❑ Chinese shoe:

In the 17th Century, men wore shoes and mules with a square toe, often blocked and domed. Women decided that a pointed toe was more feminine. An important innovation in 1660 was the buckle to fasten a shoe. Samuel Pepys wrote in his diary of 22nd January 1660, "This day I began to put on buckles to my shoes".

At first popular with men, women eventually wore them too, replacing ribbon latches with buckle latches.



❑ Silk shoe:

The 19th Century was characterised by the predominance of boots both for men and women. Popular styles were the Blucher boot, cloth boots, the elastic sided boot, the button boot, and the Balmoral boot.

Apart from boots, women wore court shoe style shoes in a variety of different materials, from satin and silk to reptile and drawn leathers. Men had a choice between the Oxford shoe, with front lacing and a closed tab and the Derby shoe, with front lacing and an open toe.



❑ Platform shoe:

The 20th Century saw a variety of shoe styles and the rise of the shoe designer.

From 1920s bar shoes to 1930s co-respondent two-colour shoes to 1940s utility styles to 1950s brothel creepers to 1960s winklepickers and stiletto heels to 1970s platform soles, shoe designers were prominent throughout the 20th Century.



Footgear:

Any outer covering of foot which provides protection of foot from heat, cold, rain, dirtiness, dampness or roughness of the ground in walking and standing.

Footwear:

Any outer covering of foot which provides protection of foot from heat, cold, rain, dirtiness, dampness or roughness of the ground in walking and standing as well as provides decoration to increase aesthetic appeal of a costume.



Purpose of Footwear

- To protect the sole of the foot from the heat , cold, dampness, dirt or roughness of the ground in walking and standing.
- To protect the upper part of the foot and the leg from the cold , rain , thorns, and insect or other bites.
- To assist the foot to perform some abnormal task . This includes the various sports such as football, cricket, hockey, running, fishing, riding, mountaineering, dancing, etc., all of which today have their own special footwear.
- To overcome abnormalities in the foot itself, the surgical boot being the extreme example of this .
- To complete a costume.
- To indicate rank or office.



Seven basic Footwear styles



Seven basic Footwear styles are:

- 1) Oxford
- 2) Derby
- 3) Court
- 4) Moccasin
- 5) Booty/Boot
- 6) Slip on/Loafer
- 7) Sandal



Oxford Shoe: History

Oxford shoes, which were among the first men's laced shoes, were worn in the 17th century, often by men attending a university. Unlike their predecessors, early laced shoes were cut smaller than the foot, which gave men a mincing step.

They were associated with foppery, fine dressing and a particular social class. These shoes are also sometimes called Balmorals, but because they were most associated with college men, they took on the name of Oxford University.

Americans wouldn't see many of these shoes until the early 19th century, and by then, many modifications had been made.

Today, Oxford shoes are considered men's dress shoes that lace up. They are usually made of leather or suede, but some less expensive or vegan varieties feature non-animal hide shoes.

Oxford shoe-Features:

- ❑ Laced up shoe with eyelets
 - ❑ Vamp overlaps the quarter.
 - ❑ Quarter is locked at the vamp point and hence the opening of the quarter is limited.
 - ❑ Has an independent tongue which is stitched at final stage of the upper.
 - ❑ Close Facing.
 - ❑ Unisex.
 - ❑ Most widely used as formal shoe.
 - ❑ A wide range of styles can be derived from this design.
-





Quarter

Vamp

**Vamp
overlaps
the quarter**



Fig: Oxford Shoe

Derby/Gibson: History

A blucher is a style of shoe similar to a derby. Its vamp is made of a single piece of leather ("one cut").

It is named after the 18th century Prussian general Gebhard Leberecht von Blücher. General von Blücher commissioned a boot with side pieces lapped over the front in an effort to provide his troops with improved footwear.

This design was adopted by armies across Europe.

Some English manufacturers seem to refer to this type of shoe as 'plain toe'.



Derby shoe-Features:

- ❑ Laced up shoe with eyelets.
 - ❑ Quarter overlaps the vamp.
 - ❑ Quarter can be opened till half of the tread line.
 - ❑ Vamp and tongue will be the same pattern.
 - ❑ Characteristic “Derby Lock” stitching stay on quarters.
 - ❑ Open Facing
 - ❑ Unisex.
 - ❑ Most widely used as formal shoe.
 - ❑ A wide range of styles can be derived from this design.
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**Quarter
overlaps the
vamp**

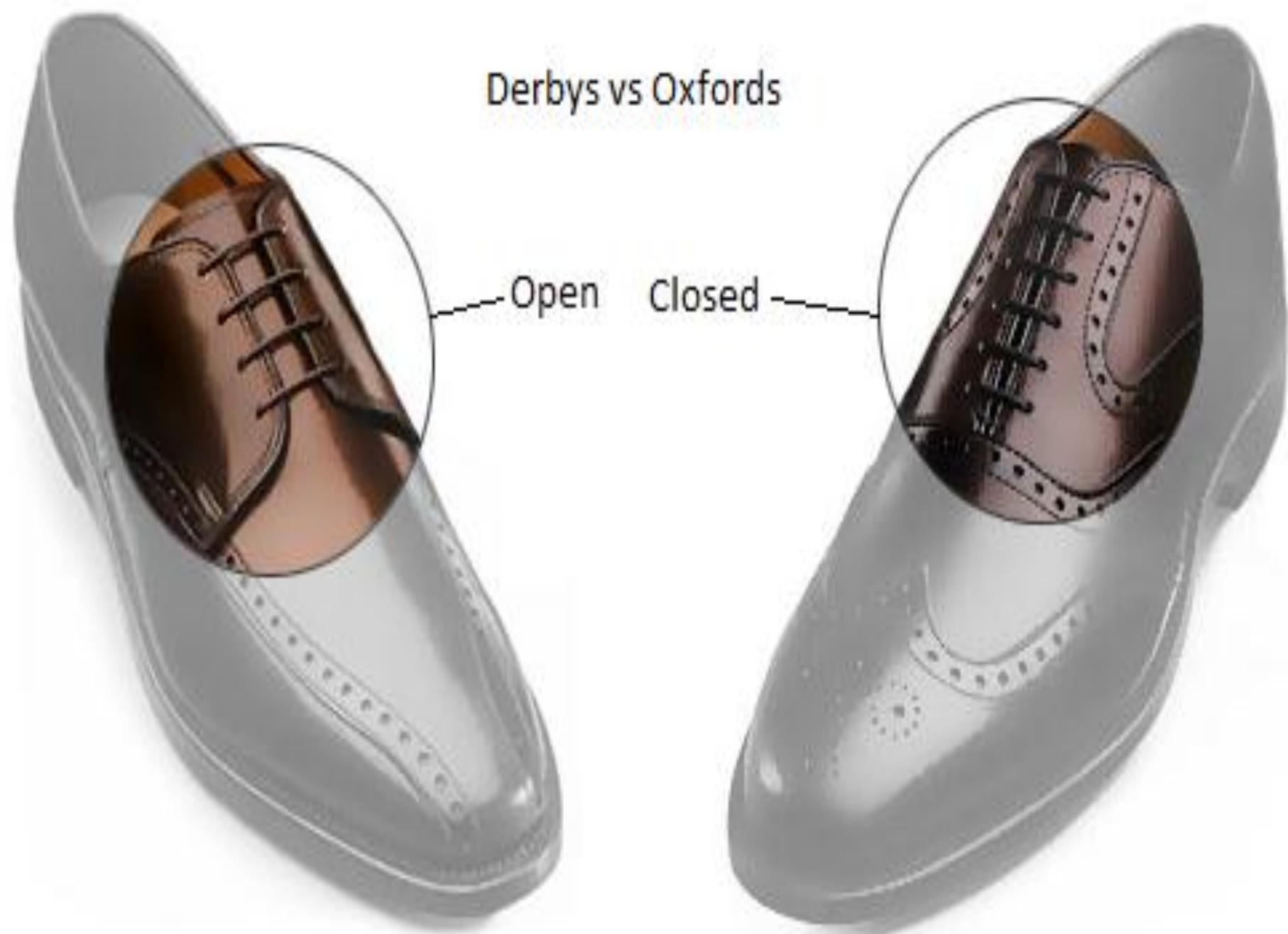


Fig: Derby Shoe



**Derby
Lock stitch**

Derbys vs Oxfords



Court Shoe: History

Heeled shoes with low cut fronts and usually no fastening. The plain seamless pump started life as a heel-less shoe worn indoors. It was a slip on which did not extend beyond or above the vamp and quarter top lines, held onto the foot without a fastening, although later a wrap around strap like a ballet slipper was used. In the UK the pump was known as a court shoe.

By the nineteenth century the slip on pump had become sophisticated worn by both men and women. A low front pump deliberately tantalized by exposing suggestive toe cleavage. When dandy Count D'Orsay introduced a pump style which was low cut on the sides to expose the curve of the long arch and the sinuous movements of the foot the shoe took on extra sensual components.

The sensual trifecta was completed with the addition of higher heels. By the 1930s daytime shoes were neat and feminine-looking with oval toes and straight, high heels.

Court shoe-Features:

- ❑ It has an unbroken topline.
- ❑ The top line will be below the vamp point.
- ❑ Shoes for ladies formal and casual wear.
- ❑ No adjustable fastening, with no material over the instep.
Shoe held on by clip of the top line.
- ❑ Can be: (i) $\frac{1}{2}$ cut-seamed down the vamp.
(ii) $\frac{3}{4}$ cut-inside waist seam
(iii) Whole cut-no seam, all excluding back seam.
- ❑ Unisex
- ❑ Many variations possible such as low heel, one or two side open, open toe, sling back, etc.





**Unbroken top
line & no
adjustable
fastening**

Fig: Court Shoe

Thanks to All

